

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

WILMINGTON, N. C., MONDAY, MAY 29, 1854.

Authorized Agents for the Journal.

JAMES M. REDMOND, Tarboro', Edgecombe Co., N. C.
JOSEPH R. KEMP, Bladen county.
JOSEPH R. KEMP, Bladen county.
JAMES H. MASON, Grandville Hill, Bladen Co.
R. BAXTER, Black Creek, Wayne county.
LEWIS JONES, Pish Hill P. O., Lenoir county.

The Proposed Railroad to Charlotte.

So early a period in the inception of any work, or rather in the inception of the preliminary movements towards any work, is much too soon to speak positively with reference to its future prospects, which may be dependent upon so many contingencies which the future alone can reveal. As regards the spirit with which the proposition has been received here and the indications which existing circumstances afford, however, we can speak, and they are highly favourable in view of the completion of such a work and of the probabilities of its construction. On this latter point much has of course depended upon the action of the intermediate counties between the two points. We have reason to believe that these counties or most of them are fully alive to the importance of the object in view, and sanguine expectations are entertained that they will come up to the work warmly and liberally.

A direct connection with the west has long been a cherished object with the citizens of Wilmington, and has also engaged the attention of the press here, as we find by a reference to our files, where we find that such connection has been alluded to and urged at sundry times, extending back for some years, but especially since the agitation of the Charleston Commercial Convention. Our contemporaries of the Commercial and Herald have also alluded to this matter. The recent action of the citizens of Charlotte, in the first indication of a desire to meet us in forming the despatched connection, and it is but right and proper and courteous on our part, that the invitation of the people of Charlotte and Mecklenburg county, to meet them in convention, should be responded to in the spirit which prompted it. This has been done, and what further may be considered necessary will also be done, for the promotion of so important an object.

Subsequent movements and more definite and determined action must of course, depend upon the Convention, when called by Charlotte. At that Convention all the interests concerned, will no doubt be represented and a full understanding of all the bearings of the case be arrived at. One thing is now certain—direct western connections must have. Charlotte has proposed that connection. With all the light now before our people, that connection has all their sympathies, good wishes and will have their fullest co-operation, unless things turn out totally different from any expectations now entertained.

The Boston Riots.

During Sunday a great excitement pervaded the usually quiet city of Boston. The abolitionists were particularly active in getting up secret meetings and endeavoring to stimulate the negroes to the rescue of the fugitive Burns, who acknowledges that he is a slave and willing to return to Virginia with his master. Wendell Phillips and Theodore Parker got a guard to protect them from the vengeance of the friends of Batchelder, the deputy U. S. Marshal who was murdered by the mob. The examination of the fugitive was continued until Monday, and as it is almost certain that the Court will order his being given up to his master, an attempt at rescue and terrible times were anticipated. Col. Suttle, who claims Burns as his slave, was arrested on Saturday, under a charge of attempting to kidnap a citizen of Massachusetts, and is held under bail.

The United States troops have been called out, and the authorities are determined to enforce the law. The Irish in Boston seem determined to thrash the abolitionists for killing Batchelder, who, we suppose, was an Irishman.

The Boston Abolition Riot.—We call attention to the account of this affair at Boston, on Saturday last, and to the article thereon, which we republish from the Washington Union of yesterday. We feel confident that the machinations of traitors in high places will be defeated, and that the law will be enforced, and the constitution upheld, at whatever cost. Mr. Sumner and his abettors, as well as his understrappers, will find that they have miscalculated their strength.

Mr. Burritt.

Elihu Burritt, Esq., made an address here Thursday on the subject of ocean jenny postages, which was certainly able and eloquent, but whether we are prepared to agree with him in the matter in hand is another affair. In the present state of the post-office department—crippled as its resources are,—burdened as it is with oppressive contracts with New York steamship companies, we can hardly see our way to any reduction of the kind contemplated. Upon the whole, we think all the practical considerations point the other way.

The Convention.

The Court House yesterday was crowded to overflowing with delegates to the Convention on the subject of the Cape Fear Bar. Among them were gentlemen from nearly every section of the State, and the most perfect harmony marked every point in their deliberations.

Under every aspect and from every point of view this meeting is the largest and perhaps the most important which has ever been held in Wilmington. It gives the strongest evidence that can be given of the interest felt in the success of the work in hand. Gotten up hastily, with little over three weeks notice, in the busiest part of the year, it comprises as many delegates as our largest State Conventions upon political or other occasions, and as much intelligence as can be found in any similar body of men in any part of the Union.

The presence of His Excellency Gov. Reid adds still further to the interest of the occasion, and gives a still more impressive guarantee of the State feeling in regard to this as a State work.—Daily Journal, 26th ult.

The Fayetteville Observer, in its two last issues, has been making ridiculous and totally groundless charges against this paper. The pressure of the Bar Convention, and other matters of high importance, in which we have felt a deep interest, has prevented our paying to these affairs our usual attention. We will, however, take the subject up, and show the unfairness—and we had almost said, the libelousness—of that print at a very early day, when other matters are off our hands. In the meantime, it can cavort as it chooses, and parade its man of straw to its own great satisfaction.

Appointment of the President.

By and with the advice and consent of the Senate, James A. Peden, of Florida, to be chargé d'affaires of the United States in the republic of Buenos Ayres, in the place of William H. Bissell, deceased.

Mr. Peden is a native of Wilmington, where he has a large circle of relatives and friends who are proud to see him occupying so honorable a position in the public service of his country. That he will discharge the duties of his office with fidelity, and reflect honor upon the mission to which he has been appointed, those who know him best have not the slightest doubt.

The eclipse did take place on Friday afternoon, although very few witnessed it, the Sun having been obscured by clouds the most of the time, and the eclipse here being so partial as to cause no marked darkening of the atmosphere. Not more than one half of the Sun's disk was covered.

District Meetings.

On Saturday the 27th of May, 1854, the Democrats of South Washington District assembled at the usual place of meeting, for the purpose of appointing delegates to attend the County Convention, to be held in Wilmington, on Tuesday of June Court, to nominate suitable candidates to represent New Haver county in the next Legislature of North Carolina. Lot Croom was called to the Chair and K. B. Powers appointed Secretary. The following gentlemen were elected by ballot: Lot Croom and R. H. Tate Delegates, and N. Southern and W. M. Murray as alternates. LOT CROOM, Chair'n. K. B. POWERS, Sec'y.

In pursuance of public notice, a meeting of the Democratic citizens of the two Captains' Districts of the town of Wilmington, was held at the Court House on Monday evening, May 29th, for the purpose of appointing delegates to the Democratic County Convention to be held in Wilmington on Tuesday of June Court.

On motion, S. D. Wallace, Esq., was called to the Chair, and R. J. Jones appointed Secretary. After the chairman had explained the objects of the meeting, the following gentlemen were placed on the nomination of the unanimous consent of delegates to the County Convention: from the Upper Division, S. D. Wallace and James T. Miller, Esqs.; from the Lower Division, Thomas W. Hogue, and John A. Parker, Esqs.

On motion the meeting adjourned in the direction of the railroad meeting at Commissioners' Hall.

S. D. WALLACE, Chm'n. R. J. JONES, Secretary.

WILMINGTON, May 29th, 1854.

At a meeting of the Citizens of Wilmington, convened at the Commissioners' Hall, for the purpose of responding to a meeting of the citizens of Mecklenburg County, assembled at Charlotte, on the 17th of May, "to protest their views in regard to building the Atlantic, Tennessee and Ohio Railroad."

In the absence of the Magistrate of Police, (who was detained by sickness,) Gen. James Owen was, on motion of Gen. Alex. McKee, called to the chair, and L. J. Fleming and A. H. VanBokkelen requested to act as Secretaries.

The proceedings of the meeting at Charlotte were read to the meeting.

Dr. C. J. Fox of Mecklenburg, being present by invitation, was called upon to address the meeting, when he explained the great advantages, he thought would accrue to the county through which the road would pass, and the towns along its route and at its terminus.

Wm. A. Wright, R. H. Cowan and O. P. Meares, Esqs., a committee who were appointed to report resolutions for the action of this meeting reported as follows:

WHEREAS, We believe that the time has arrived when the people of North Carolina are fully awakened to a deep sense of the necessity and policy of developing her vast resources, by the establishment of a fair and liberal system of internal improvements, tending to open markets within her own limits to the produce of every section of the State; and whereas, we have received the gratifying information of the proceedings of a meeting recently held by our fellow citizens of Mecklenburg, relative to the construction of a Railroad from the town of Wilmington, and running thence, through the Pee Dee Counties, via Charlotte, into East Tennessee, and proposing to hold a Convention of the friends of the contemplated route some time during the ensuing Summer or Fall, and previous to the meeting of our next Legislature; therefore,

Resolved, First, That a Railroad from Wilmington, and passing through the Pee Dee Counties to Charlotte, and thence West into East Tennessee, thus giving to the town of Wilmington a direct communication with the Western portion of our State, and ultimately with the Mississippi Valley, would not only benefit the agriculture of her citizens, but also long been the most cherished object of their enterprise; and its friends, both of this State and the State of Tennessee, may rely upon their most cheerful co-operation in effecting its early completion.

Secondly, We appeal to the friends of internal improvement in every section of the State, to lend us a helping hand in our endeavors to impress upon our next Legislature the greatest importance of this sound and patriotic policy of developing the vast interests involved in the success of this scheme—a scheme, the object of which is to open a home market to the produce of a large and most fertile portion of our State, which can now only find an outlet through the ports of another State—a scheme, too, which does not conflict with the interest of any other now in existence in the State.

We highly approve of the suggestion of the citizens of Mecklenburg, to hold a convention of the friends of the proposed Road, and that, in our opinion, Charlotte is the most appropriate place, and that the Convention should be held at such time as the citizens of Mecklenburg shall appoint; and we would respectfully recommend to the citizens of every county in the State, interested in the construction of this Road, and also the parties of the State of Tennessee, similarly situated, to hold meetings as early as day as possible, and appoint delegates to attend said Convention.

Fourthly, That the Chairman of this meeting do appoint a number of delegates, not less than thirty to represent the town of Wilmington in said Convention.

Which, on motion of Gen. Alex'r. McKee was received.

On the passage of the Resolutions, the meeting was addressed by Dr. A. J. DeRossett, O. P. Meares, Esq., Henry Nutt, and R. H. Cowan, when the Preamble and Resolutions were unanimously adopted as the sense of the meeting.

On motion of Gen. Alexander McKee, Resolved, That the Chairman of this meeting be authorized to the list of delegates to the State of Tennessee, to correspond with the citizens of Charlotte upon matters relating to the object of this meeting; whereupon Col. John McKee, A. J. DeRossett, Jr., James Fulton, A. H. VanBokkelen, R. H. Cowan, and L. J. Fleming were appointed, and on motion the Chairman and Wm. A. Wright were added to the Committee.

On motion of Gen. Alexander McKee, ordered that the proceedings of this meeting be published in the papers of this place.

After a few remarks from Dr. C. J. Fox, of Mecklenburg, the meeting adjourned.

JAMES OWEN, President. L. J. FLEMING, Secretary. A. H. VANBOKKELEN, Secretaries.

For the Journal, The Improvement of Cape Fear Bar—Public Meeting.

A portion of the citizens of Johnston county assembled in the Court House in Smithfield on Saturday, the 23d day of May, for the purpose of appointing delegates to represent said County in the Commercial Convention, which convenes in the town of Wilmington on the 25th inst. On motion of Wm. H. Watson, Esq., Joseph W. Evans, Esq., was called to preside, and Powell Blackman, Esq., requested to act as Secretary.

The Chairman addressed the meeting in a brief but very appropriate and animated speech; and, on motion of Wm. H. Watson, Esq., a Committee consisting of the following gentlemen, viz: Wm. H. Watson, Linn B. Saunders and Wm. H. McCullers, Esqs., was appointed to draft resolutions for the consideration of the meeting. The committee, in a very short time, made the following report, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the people of Johnston county have heard, with great satisfaction, of the contemplated Convention in the town of Wilmington, concerning the improvement of the Main Bar of the Cape Fear River and of the port of Wilmington; and in such an object every true North Carolinian feels a deep interest.

Resolved, That the thanks of the citizens of this State are due, and are hereby tendered, the Hon. George E. Badger, and all others in Congress who have contributed their efforts in this good work.

Resolved, That the Chairman of this meeting appoint twenty delegates to attend said Convention. Whereupon the following gentlemen were appointed: L. B. Sanders, W. H. Watson, John B. Beckwith, John H. Thompson, W. H. McCullers, Henry Gerhardt, Lodovick Eldridge, A. D. Norcross, George W. Watson, David Smith, John McClellan, Uriah Bradley, Exom Holland, J. D. S. Wellows, Col. D. McPherson, Stephen Snead, Ephraim Page, C. B. Sanders, Chas. H. Snead; and on motion, the Chairman and Secretary were added to the list.

Mr. Cantwell, of Raleigh, responded to a call made by the meeting, in a very chaste and soul-stirring

speech. On motion of W. H. Watson, Esq., the secretary was requested to forward a copy of these proceedings to the Editors of the Wilmington Journal for publication, with request that the other town papers would copy.

J. W. EVANS, Chairman. POWELL BLACKMAN, Secretary.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE JOURNAL:

There is no word in the English language in more general use, and at the same time less understood, than the word "Liberty." It is in the mouth of every clasp-trap artist, whatever may be the subject he holds forth upon, and is defined by him to mean a right to abuse every person with whom he may differ in opinion—the privilege of dictating to his fellow what he shall think, speak or do—himself being perfectly uncontrolled; in short, the liberty of being always in the right.

These remarks have suggested themselves to me by the perusal of the proceedings of the various anniversary meetings held lately in New York. From the loud hurray of the rabid abolitionist down to the squeak of the advocate of "Women's Rights," this definition of Liberty has been fully sustained. Ten or more of the speakers on proof for their subjects seemed necessary to an extent subservient of all law and order. It was sufficient that the favorite Shibboleth was pronounced, and multitudes senselessly echoed the sound like so many sheep following the bell wether. If but the least hint was given that there might be room for discussion—that the moderate drinker—the slaveholder, or the advocate of Men's Rights might have something to say for themselves, the howl of the whole pack, in full cry was heard demanding the revival of the Looitkins and Thumkins of former days.

In all ages of the world might has been considered right, but in no age has the pill been so beautifully gilded as in the present. To a thinking mind the extent of the self-deception practised in this matter must be alarming—striking as it does at the safety of society. It is the right of private judgment run to seed—erected in an extent subservient of all law and order. This was illustrated at an abolition meeting on the occasion referred to where one of the speakers, surely misnamed Reverend, is reported by the New York Herald, among other lawless sentiments, to have said that "Franklin Pierce," the Chief Magistrate of this nation, "should be sold as a slave."

The day once was when the utterance of such a sentiment would have cost the speaker his ears, and he has reason to be thankful that the maintenance of dignity now-a-days does not require such sacrifices. Circumstances might occur when their utterance would be justified by the improper conduct of the Ruler, but, in this instance, the words were provoked simply because the views of the President and the gentleman, regarding slavery, do not agree. The speaker, however, prepared to go to prison for the Shibboleth of the party. There is no doubt the speaker fancied himself an advocate of liberty, but after all he was but a tyrant in disguise, and as all probability there were a number of other little tyrants in company—if they had not had the might the President would have been condemned to run the gauntlet of torture. What a comfort it is that hitherto these animals have been prevented from doing more mischief by the security of the State. Pierce has been elected to his high office because a majority of his fellow citizens considered him fit to fill it. What does all that matter, if he does not know the pass word. I say this reverend gentleman's speech illustrates the manner in which the pill is gilded, and the extreme danger to society by such a use, or rather abuse, of liberty.

It is not a humane, just and religious people, shall spring a public opinion to keep perpetual guard over the liberties of all within our borders; nay, more, like the flaming sword of the cherubim at the gates of Paradise, turning on every side, it shall prevent any slave-hunter from ever setting foot in this Commonwealth. Elsewhere he may pursue his human prey; he may employ his congenial bloodhounds, and exult in his successful gains, but in Massachusetts he must not come.—Extracts from the speech of Senator Charles Sumner, in Boston, Oct. of 1850.

On Friday morning last the Nebraska bill passed its final reading in the Senate of the United States, and before Charles Sumner, the author of the above deliberate invocations to violence against the laws had deliberately, and before God, sworn to defend his protest, his determination to leave the fugitive, had statute repealed, and had solemnly pronounced the maledictions of the New England church against it, and had asserted, in terms, that the law should never be executed in Massachusetts. He and his confederates had previously organized the New England clergy against the Nebraska bill, in an address full of wilful falsehoods and incendiary appeals, and it was fitting that he should close his first campaign, on Friday morning, first, by defending the three thousand ministers of the Gospel whom he and other domestic demagogues had deceived into the belief that it was their duty to speak "in the name of Almighty God" against an act of legislation; and, secondly, by invoking the populace of New England to resist the law of Congress to the death.

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Fugitive-slave Riot.

Boston, May 27.—A terrible and most disgraceful riot occurred here last night. After the meeting at Faneuil Hall, where the people became excited to a high pitch, by inflammatory abolition speeches, crowds collected together in squads at the corners of the streets, which soon ripened into a furious mob, who attempted to rescue Burns, the alleged fugitive slave. A desperate conflict between the rioters and the authorities, in which the deputy United States Marshal was shot, and several rioters and several authorities were seriously, and some, it is feared, fatally, injured. The excitement continued all night, but the mob failed in rescuing Burns.

The military were ordered out at 9 o'clock this morning, who up to this time have maintained order. The militia are also under arms, and every effort is making to maintain the peace. The examination of the case is now going on, and the court-house is surrounded by at least five thousand persons, independent of the military. The excitement is intense, and it is feared that the end is not yet. Business is almost entirely suspended, and the whole city disturbed.

[SECOND DISPATCH.]

Boston, May 27.—The examination of the fugitive Burns still continues, and the excitement increases. Several of the rioters have been arrested and held for trial. A detachment of the United States Marines, under Lieutenant Bird, are on duty in the interior of the court-house, guarding the halls, passages, &c. The multitude outside continues to increase, and has now swelled to probably ten thousand, and increasing. Mayor Smith addressed them, after which the riot act was ordered to be read.

[THIRD DISPATCH.]

Boston, May 27.—12 p. m.—James Batchelder is the name of the United States deputy marshal who was shot. He leaves a wife and an interesting family of children to lament his untimely end. The entire watch and police of the city are on duty.

The Independent Cadets of Boston, and the Boston Light Infantry, under Captain Rogers, are quartered in the city hall. Col. Wright's company of light dragoons are also on hand, and others are preparing to come out.

The more moderate opponents of the fugitive-slave law denounce the meeting last night. The counsel of Burns, the fugitive, has asked for a continuance of the examination until Monday.

Boston yesterday is a scene of bloodshed, where Burns was supposed to have been confined, were broken in last night.

[FOURTH DISPATCH.]

Boston, May 27.—5 p. m.—The examination of the case of the fugitive-slave Burns has been postponed to Monday. The city has called upon all good citizens to preserve order.

It is rumored that special trains of cars have brought in large numbers of mobites from the surrounding towns. The regular military force of the city is still out, the militia are under arms, and the police of the city are in action.

The excitement among the people in the city is still great, but partially subsiding.

[FIFTH DISPATCH.]

Boston, May 27.—9 p. m.—Nine rioters have been committed for the murder of Batchelder. All is now quiet, but the troops are still on duty. The report now is that money will be subscribed to buy the fugitive.

From the Washington Union, May 28, 1854.

Abolition Mob and Murder in Boston.

The Constitution and Laws of the United States set at defiance. "The fugitive slaves of the United States are among the most sacred of our rights. In surrendering them to the custody of Congress, we should violate every sentiment of hospitality, every whispering of the heart, every dictate of religion. There are many who will never shrink at any cost, and notwithstanding all the atrocious penalties of this bill, from efforts to save a wandering fellow-man from bondage; they will offer him the shelter of their houses, and if need be, will protect his liberty by force."

From a humane, just and religious people, shall spring a public opinion to keep perpetual guard over the liberties of all within our borders; nay, more, like the flaming sword of the cherubim at the gates of Paradise, turning on every side, it shall prevent any slave-hunter from ever setting foot in this Commonwealth. Elsewhere he may pursue his human prey; he may employ his congenial bloodhounds, and exult in his successful gains, but in Massachusetts he must not come.—Extracts from the speech of Senator Charles Sumner, in Boston, Oct. of 1850.

On Friday morning last the Nebraska bill passed its final reading in the Senate of the United States, and before Charles Sumner, the author of the above deliberate invocations to violence against the laws had deliberately, and before God, sworn to defend his protest, his determination to leave the fugitive, had statute repealed, and had solemnly pronounced the maledictions of the New England church against it, and had asserted, in terms, that the law should never be executed in Massachusetts. He and his confederates had previously organized the New England clergy against the Nebraska bill, in an address full of wilful falsehoods and incendiary appeals, and it was fitting that he should close his first campaign, on Friday morning, first, by defending the three thousand ministers of the Gospel whom he and other domestic demagogues had deceived into the belief that it was their duty to speak "in the name of Almighty God" against an act of legislation; and, secondly, by invoking the populace of New England to resist the law of Congress to the death.

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